

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05289 161736Z

62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9345

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, VN, VS

SUBJECT: KOSYGIN AND SOVIET MEDIA ON INDOCHINA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

USIA FOR IBS, IEE, IPS

1. SOVIETS CONTINUE TO LAMBASTE CURRENT U.S. POLICIES IN INDOCHINA. "THE ACTS OF EXTERNAL IMPERIALIST FORCES" IN VIETNAM ARE "RESOLUTELY CONDEMNED" IN THE KOSYGIN-SADDAM HUSSEIN COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING THE VISIT TO MOSCOW BY THE IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT. (FULL RUSSIAN TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE.) WHILE PARTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE RHETORICAL FLOURISHES CUSTOMARY IN SOVIET COMMUNIQUE WITH RADICAL REGIMES, THIS LANGUAGE--FOR THE FIRST TIME DURING THE CURRENT VIETNAM CRISIS--ENGAGES THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT (AS DISTINGUISHED FROM PRESS COMMENTARY) IN AT LEAST IMPLICIT CRITICISM OF THE U.S. ROLE. THE KOSYGIN-BIJEDIC COMMUNIQUE, PUBLISHED IN PRAVDA APRIL 16 FOLLOWING THE KOSYGIN PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTURE DOES NOT, HOWEVER, REFER TO THE U.S. IN ITS CONDEMNATION OF SAIGON'S

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05289 161736Z

"SABOTAGE POLICY" AGAINST THE PARIS AGREEMENTS.

THE SOVIET-YUGOSLAV DOCUMENT ALSO CALLS FOR "BRINGING TO CONCLUSION" A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN VIETNAM.

2. IN OTHER COVERAGE, SOVIET MEDIA (APRIL 14-16) CONTINUE TO DEVOTE MAJOR ATTENTION TO INDOCHINA. UNDER THE HEADLINE "AGAINST U.S. INTERFERENCE," PRAVDA (APRIL 15) REPORTS THE PRG STATEMENT OPPOSING THE USE OF AMERICAN TROOPS TO HELP IN THE EVACUATION OF AMERICANS AND SOME SOUTH VIETNAMESE, AND CHARGING THAT THE U.S. AND SAIGON HAD ALREADY SERIOUSLY VIOLATED THE PARIS AGREEMENT. THE SAME ARTICLE REPORTS THE PRG CALL ON THE U.S. TO EVACUATE AMERICANS NOW WITHOUT DIFFICULTIES. PRAVDA (APRIL 16) REPLAYS TIME MAGAZINE'S ACCOUNT OF THIEU'S ALLEGED EFFORT TO SHIP GOLD TO SWITZERLAND, AND HIS ALLEGED PREPARATIONS TO FLEE. LITERATURNAYA GAZETA (APRIL 16) COMMENTS EDITORIALY THAT THE U.S. BEARS THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DISASTROUS SITUATION OF THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION ON TERRITORY STILL UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SAIGON REGIME.

3. ON CAMBODIA, THE MEDIA REPLAY NEWS SERVICE REPORTS ON THE ADVANCE OF THE "LIBERATION" FORCES INTO PARTS OF PHNOM PENH AND NEAR POCHENTONG AIRPORT. THE PRESS AND TV HAVE ALSO CARRIED SIHANOUK'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE HAD REFUSED A U.S. REQUEST TO TAKE POWER IN PHNOM PENH AND THAT HE HAD TURNED OVER ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS TO "THE PATRIOTS."  
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